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East Germany

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COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_ REPORT \_\_\_\_\_

TOPIC Finow Airfield

EVALUATION \_\_\_\_\_ 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED \_\_\_\_\_ 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT \_\_\_\_\_ 25X1

DATE OBTAINED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE PREPARED 21 December 1953

REFERENCES \_\_\_\_\_ 25X1

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

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1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Finow airfield between 31 October and 15 November 1953:

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31 October. During the morning, there was intensive air activity by MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s, including one MiG-15 [redacted]. The weather was sunny. An estimated 70 aircraft most of which were MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s were parked on the northern edge of the field. The alert flight consisted of 4 MiG-15s [redacted].

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1 November. Between 10 a.m. and noon, no air activity was observed.

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7 November. Between 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m., no flights were made. There was fair weather. The alert flight of 4 aircraft [redacted].

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8 November. Between noon and 12:30 p.m., there was no air activity because of unfavorable weather. The alert flight including one aircraft [redacted] was parked on the usual dispersal area. Tank truck [redacted] was parked just next to the alert aircraft.

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15 November. Between 11:30 a.m. and noon, there was no air activity.

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2. The AA gun emplacement in the southeastern corner of the field was occupied. Personnel were observed near four AA guns. 2 Motor vehicles observed entering and leaving the field [redacted].

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3. Between 9 and 14 November, there was comparatively little air activity at the field. On 13 November, the alert flight consisted of four MiG-15s.

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About 51 MIG-15s or U-MIG-15s of which 31 were counted and an estimated 8 Yak-11s were parked at the northern edge of the field. 1

4. On 15 November, a sizeable number of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were observed at Bernau railroad station entering the train to Eberswalde. When the train arrived at Eberswalde railroad station, about 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, apparently recruits, were seen leaving the train and subsequently marching toward Pinow.

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[redacted] soldiers on Biesenthaler Strasse in Pinow while marching toward Pinow airfield. 4

5. It was rumored among the civilian employees of the restricted area in Pinow which was occupied by the Soviet Air Force that officers dependents were expected to arrive and that a Soviet school for the children would be established. 5
6. In October, an increased number of assaults and rapes by Soviet soldiers against the German population occurred in Pinow. Once, five drunk soldiers beat with their belts Germans leaving a motion picture theater. Finally, the Soviets were arrested by a Soviet patrol. 6  
A German woman employed in the restricted area stated that she had learned from a Soviet officer that members of the Soviet Occupation Forces were not allowed to marry German women.
7. During the days after 21 October, Soviet trucks occupied by air force soldiers were conspicuously often observed roving between the airfield and Pinowfurth. [redacted] the Soviets searched for an air force officer whose coat had allegedly been found at the canal near Pinowfurth. Therefore, Soviet soldiers searched the canal by means of poles. On 30 October, the deserted senior lieutenant was found in the house of a German woman where he had hidden since the day of desertion. When the Soviets surrounded the house, the senior lieutenant fired at them with a submachine gun. Thereupon, the fire brigade was alerted. When a fireman was wounded, tear gas was used. Finally, the senior lieutenant shot himself.

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9. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at the field between 9 and 26 November:

9 November. At 11:15 a.m., two MiG-15s took off. About 60 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were parked at the northern edge of the field. All of the aircraft were covered with tarpaulins except for the alert flight.

10 November. At 2:25 p.m., a swept-back jet aircraft was observed flying over Pinow. The aircraft landed about 5 minutes later. The weather was hazy.

11 and 12 November. No air activity was observed. There was hazy weather.

13 November. At noon and shortly after 2 p.m., swept-back jet fighters were observed aloft. There was a closed ceiling at an altitude of about 1,000 meters. At 7:10 p.m., a jet aircraft with set position lights was observed over the town.

14 November. At 8:25 a.m., a local flight was made by a MiG-15. The weather was hazy.

15 November. No air activity was observed.

16 November. Between 9:30 a.m. and 10:10 a.m., flying was practiced. Five swept-back jet fighters were repeatedly observed taking off and landing. There were no clouds.

19 November. Between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., [redacted] no air activity was conducted. In the afternoon, an estimated 60 aircraft were parked at the field.

20 November. Between 11:15 a.m. and 12:15 p.m., MiG-15s practiced flying individually and in elements of twos over Eberswalde. There was a closed ceiling and a visibility range of about 2 km. The aircraft approached from the direction of Pinow and returned in the same direction.

21 November. At 9:30 a.m., two MiG-15s took off. Another two swept-back jet fighters were observed taking off after about 15 minutes.

22 and 23 November. No air activity was observed. There was hazy weather and visibility was limited to 1 km.

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24 November. Two swept-back jet aircraft were observed flying at 2:10 p.m. No additional air activity was observed throughout the day.

25 November. Between 10:30 a.m. and 2:45 p.m., MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s practiced flying in formations of two and three.

26 November. At 1 p.m., two MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were observed flying over Eberswalde. There was a 8/10 overcast.

Trucks [ ] the former with driver wearing black-bordered blue epaulets were seen moving to the field. 1

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1. [ ] Comment. Finow airfield is still occupied by a fighter division headquarters and two fighter regiments equipped with a total of about 65 MiG-15s. [ ]

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2. [ ] Comment. The existence of the AA gun emplacement at the field was previously reported.

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3. [ ]

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4. [ ] Comment. It is believed that the recruits were assigned to the AA batteries in connection with the personnel exchange.

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5. [ ] Comment. Several unconfirmed statements on the expected arrival of officers' dependents have been received.

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6. [ ] Comment. Such occurrences have been reported from other military posts. Some of them resulted in drastic measures being taken against the culprits.

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